

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a memory that stores image data, the image data being in a first format;

5 a format converter that converts the first format of the image data stored in the memory to a second format that is acceptable to an external device; and

a transmitter that transmits the image data in the second format to the external device..

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2. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an image reader that reads an image on a document to thereby acquire the image data corresponding to the image.

15 3. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second format is a general format that is acceptable to a general information processing unit.

4. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
20 the format converter includes a compressor that compresses the image data stored and an expander that expands the image data compressed, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data expanded to the second format.

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5. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter includes a multinary converter that increases number of gradations of the image data stored to thereby obtain multinary image data, and
- 5 the format converter converts the first format of the multinary image data to the second format.
6. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter includes a resolution converter that converts
- 10 resolution of the image data stored to a predetermined value, and the format converter converts the first format of the image data resolution converted to the second format.
7. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further
- 15 comprising a resolution setting unit that sets the value.
8. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image data stored is color data and the format converter includes a color-space converter that converts color-space of the image data, and
- 20 the format converter converts the first format of the image data color-space converted to the second format.
9. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter converts the first format of the image data stored
- 25 to the second format based on any one or more of an attribute of the

image data stored and information obtained from the external device.

10. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an image forming unit that forms an image on a recording medium based on the image data stored, wherein

the format converter converts the first format of the image data stored to a third format that is acceptable to the image forming unit.

11. The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the conditions are set based on information obtained from the external device.

12. The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising an operating unit that specifies the conditions and the external device.

13. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image data in the first format is an image data in a predetermined color-space, and the image data in the second format is an image data in monochrome.

14. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter includes a binary converter that converts the image data stored into binary image data, and the format converter converts the first format of the binary image

data to the second format.

15. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter includes a filter that filters the image data stored,

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the format converter converts the first format of the image data filtered to the second format.

16. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

10 the format converter includes a half-tone processor that converts a gradation of the image data stored, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data gradation converted to the second format.

15 17. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image data stored is colored, and the format converter includes a color-gray converter that converts a the colored image data into grey, and

20 the format converter converts the first format of the grey image data to the second format.

18. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter includes a gamma correction unit that carries out gamma correction of the image data stored based on predetermined

25 gamma correction data, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data gamma corrected to the second format.

19. The image processing apparatus according to claim 18, further  
5 comprising a gamma value setting unit that sets the gamma correction data.

20. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
the format converter includes a color correction unit that carries out  
10 color correction of the image data stored, and the format converter converts the first format of the image data color corrected to the second format.

21. The image processing apparatus according to claim 20, wherein  
15 the image data is in CMYK color model, and the color correction includes conversion of the image data in the CMYK color model to an image data in RGB color model.

22. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further  
20 comprising:

an image quality mode setting unit that sets an image quality mode of the image data that is to be stored in the memory; and

a color correction parameter changer that changes a color correction parameter for the color correction according to the set image  
25 quality mode.

23. The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format converter further includes a format setting unit that specifies the second format.

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24. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a printer engine that forms an image on a recording medium based on image data, the image data being in a first format;  
a memory that stores the image data;

10 a format converter that converts the first format of the image data stored to a second format that is acceptable to an external device based on predetermined conditions;

a connecting unit that connects with a network, wherein the external device is connected to the network; and

15 a transmitter that transmits the image data in the second format to the external device via the connection unit.

25. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising an image reader that reads an image on a document to  
20 thereby acquire the image data corresponding to the image.

26. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the second format is a general format that is acceptable to a general information processing unit.

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27. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a compressor that compresses the image data stored and an expander that expands the image data compressed, and

5 the format converter converts the first format of the image data expanded to the second format.

28. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a multinary converter that increases  
10 number of gradations of the image data stored to thereby obtain multinary image data, and

the format converter converts the first format of the multinary image data to the second format.

15 29. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a resolution converter that converts resolution of the image data stored to a predetermined value, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data resolution converted to the second format.

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30. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising a resolution setting unit that sets the value.

31. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein  
25 the image data stored is color data and the format converter that

converts color-space of the image data, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data color-space converted to the second format.

5 32. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter converts the first format of the image data stored to the second format based on any one or more of an attribute of the image data stored and information obtained from the external device.

10 33. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising an image forming unit that forms an image on a recording medium based on the image data stored, wherein

the format converter converts the first format of the image data stored to a third format that is acceptable to the image forming unit.

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34. The image processing apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the conditions are set based on information obtained from the external device.

20 35. The image processing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising an operating unit that specifies the conditions and the external device.

36. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein  
25 the image data in the first format is an image data in a predetermined



color-space, and the image data in the second format is an image data in monochrome.

37. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein  
5 the format converter includes a binary converter that converts the image data stored into binary image data, and  
the format converter converts the first format of the binary image data to the second format.

10 38. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a filter that filters the image data stored, and  
the format converter converts the first format of the image data filtered to the second format.

15 39. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a half-tone processor that converts a gradation of the image data stored, and  
the format converter converts the first format of the image data  
20 gradation converted to the second format.

40. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the image data stored is colored, and the format converter includes a color-gray converter that converts a the colored image data into grey,  
25 and

the format converter converts the first format of the grey image data to the second format.

41. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein  
5 the format converter includes a gamma correction unit that carries out gamma correction of the image data stored based on predetermined gamma correction data, and

the format converter converts the first format of the image data gamma corrected to the second format.

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42. The image processing apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising a gamma value setting unit that sets the gamma correction data.

15 43. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the format converter includes a color correction unit that carries out color correction of the image data stored, and the format converter converts the first format of the image data color corrected to the second format.

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44. The image processing apparatus according to claim 43, wherein the image data is in CMYK color model, and the color correction includes conversion of the image data in the CMYK color model to an image data in RGB color model.

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45. The image processing apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising:

an image quality mode setting unit that sets an image quality mode of the image data that is to be stored in the memory; and

5 a color correction parameter changer that changes a color correction parameter for the color correction according to the set image quality mode.

46. The image processing apparatus according to claim 45, wherein  
10 the format converter further includes a format setting unit that specifies the second format.

47. A method of processing image data, comprising:

reading an image on a document to thereby acquire image data  
15 corresponding to the image, the image data being in a first format;

storing the image data acquired;

converting the first format of the image data stored to a second format that is acceptable to an external device; and

transmitting the image data in the second format to the external  
20 device.

48. The method according to claim 47, wherein the second format is a general format that is acceptable to a general information processing unit.

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49. The method according to claim 47, further comprising  
compressing the image data acquired, wherein

the storing includes storing the image data compressed, and  
the converting includes expanding the image data compressed,

5 and converting the first format of the image data expanded to the  
second format.

50. The method according to claim 47, wherein

the converting includes a converting resolution of the image  
10 data stored to a value that is set in advance, and converting the first  
format of the image data whose resolution has been converted to the  
second format.

51. The method according to claim 47, wherein

15 the converting includes performing gamma correction to the  
image data stored based on predetermined gamma correction data, and  
converting the first format of the image data gamma corrected to the  
second format.

20 52. The method according to claim 47, wherein

the converting includes performing color correction to the image  
data stored, and converting the first format of the image data color  
corrected to the second format.

25 53. A computer program that includes a plurality of computer

executable instructions that cause a computer to perform:

reading an image on a document to thereby acquire image data corresponding to the image, the image data being in a first format;

storing the image data acquired;

5 converting the first format of the image data stored to a second format that is acceptable to an external device; and

transmitting the image data in the second format to the external device.

10 54. A computer readable recording medium on which is recorded a computer program that includes a plurality of computer executable instructions that cause a computer to perform:

reading an image on a document to thereby acquire image data corresponding to the image, the image data being in a first format;

15 storing the image data acquired;

converting the first format of the image data stored to a second format that is acceptable to an external device; and

transmitting the image data in the second format to the external device.

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